

Categorical Exclusion Determination and Decision Record For 3 Links Blowdown Removal

Description of Proposed Action

A request was made by an adjacent landowner for the removal of ten blowdown, the results of a recent snow storm. The blowdown knocked down approximately 1500 feet of fence along the landowners pasture, the pasture is full of cattle and the feed barn is adjacent to the damaged span. The landowners cattle are getting out through the damaged span of the fence, the blowdown needs to be removed as soon as possible so the landowner can build a new fence.

Plan Conformance Review

This proposal was not scoped and the public was not involved in its development. This proposal is consistent with policy directed by the following:

- *Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl*, approved April 13, 1994;
- *Medford District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan*, approved June 1995;
- *Record of Decision and Standard and Guidelines for Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standard and Guidelines*, approved January 2001;

This proposal would be consistent with management direction in the Medford District Resource Management Plan that directs the BLM to “Manage for the production and sale of special forest products (SFPs) when demand is present and where actions taken are consistent with primary objectives for the land use allocation” (USDI 1995, p 75).

Categorical Exclusion Determination

This proposed action qualifies as a categorical exclusion as provided in United States Department of the Interior Departmental Manual 516 DM 6, Appendix 5.4 C(2). This section allows for “Sale and removal of individual trees or small groups of trees which are dead, diseased, injured or which constitute a safety hazard, and where access for the removal requires no more than maintenance to existing roads.” The exclusions have been reviewed to determine if any of the exceptions described in 516 DM 6, Appendix 5 apply.

None of the exceptions to categorical exclusions apply.

Project Design Features

1. Equipment will not operate on BLM managed lands.
2. Logs will be winched to the adjacent landowners property.
3. On trees within the riparian buffer, only that portion on private property will be removed.
4. Leave sufficient large down course woody debris.
5. Road and ditch will be cleaned of slash and debris.
6. Lop and scatter slash.

Decision

Based on the attached NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) Categorical Exclusion Review, I have determined the proposed action involves no significant impact to the human environment and no further environmental analysis is required. It is my decision to implement the removal and sale of ten blowdown.

Decision Rationale

The decision is to implement the proposed action of removing and utilizing ten blowdown.

The proposed action has been reviewed by the Butte Falls Resource Area staff and appropriate Project Design

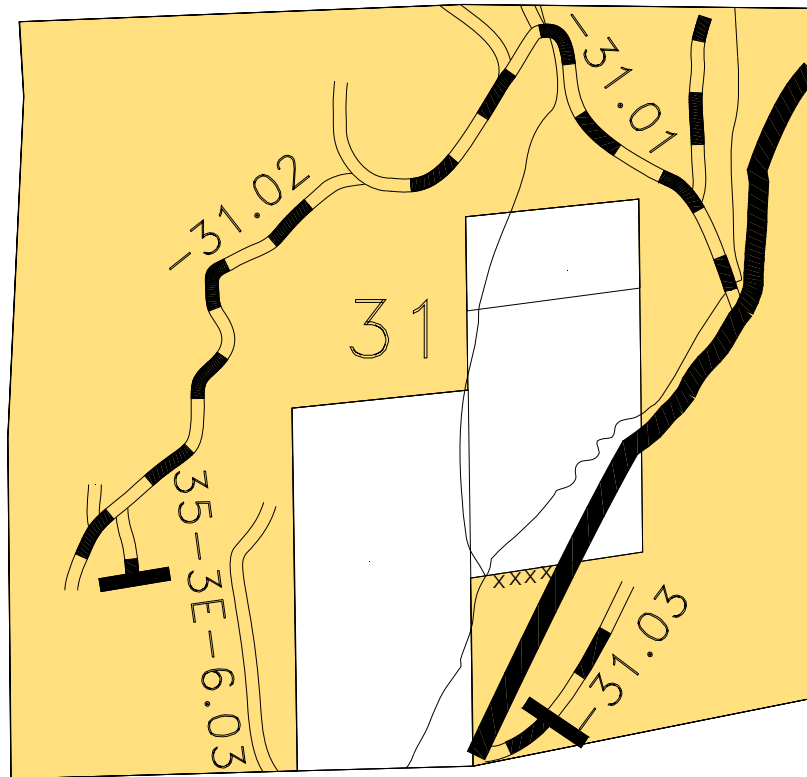
Features will be incorporated into the proposal as specified above.

 Butte Falls Field Manager

1/8/08

Date

T.34S.,R.3E.,Sec.31



X = Blowdown

NEPA Categorical Exclusion Review**Proposed Action:** Utilizing ten blowdown.

Department of the Interior Manual 516 2.3.A(3) provides for a review of the following criteria for categorical exclusion to determine if exceptions apply to the proposed action based on actions which may:

1. Have significant adverse effects on public health or safety.
☐ Yes ☒ No
 Initial DL Remarks: _____
2. Have adverse effects on such unique geographical characteristics as historic or cultural resources, park, recreation, or refuge lands, wilderness areas, wild or scenic rivers, sole or principal drinking water aquifers, prime farmlands, wetlands, floodplains, or ecologically significant or critical areas, including those listed on the Department's National Register of Natural Landmarks.
☐ Yes ☒ No
 Initial DL Remarks: _____
3. Have highly controversial environmental effects.
☐ Yes ☒ No
 Initial DL Remarks: _____
4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.
☐ Yes ☒ No
 Initial DL Remarks: _____
5. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.
☐ Yes ☒ No
 Initial DL Remarks: _____
6. Be directly related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.
☐ Yes ☒ No
 Initial DL Remarks: _____
7. Have adverse effects properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.
☐ Yes ☒ No
 Initial DL Remarks: _____
8. Affects a species listed or proposed to be listed on the list of endangered or threatened species.

Plants	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Initial <u>MW</u>	Remarks: _____
Animals	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Initial <u>SL</u>	Remarks: _____
Fish	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Initial <u>SL</u>	Remarks: <u>All trees would be left on BLM in RR</u>
9. Require compliance with Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), or the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act.
☐ Yes ☐ No
 Initial _____ Remarks: _____
10. Threaten to violate a Federal, State, local or tribal law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment.
☐ Yes ☒ No
 Initial DL Remarks: _____

I have reviewed the proposed action in accordance with the above criteria and have determined the proposed action would not involve any significant environmental impacts. Therefore, the proposed action does not meet any of the criteria for exception and is categorically excluded from further environmental review. The proposed action qualifies as a categorical exclusion under 516 DM 6, Appendix 5.4 C(2).

Jean A. Williams
 Butte Falls resource Area NEPA Coordinator

1-9-2008
 Date

John S. Berger
 Butte Falls Field Manager

1-9-2008
 Date